# General Assembly

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**Fifty-seventh session**
Agenda item 87

## Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/57/532/Add.7)*]

### 57/252. Activities undertaken in preparation for the International Year of Freshwater, 2003

*The General Assembly*,

*Recalling* its resolution 55/196 of 20 December 2000, in which it proclaimed 2003 the International Year of Freshwater, and its resolution 56/192 of 21 December 2001 on the status of preparations for the International Year of Freshwater, 2003,

*Recalling also* the provisions of Agenda 21,[1] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, adopted by the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session,[2] decisions of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its sixth session,[3] relating to freshwater, and those contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[4]

*Noting with interest* the partnership initiatives voluntarily undertaken by some Governments, international organizations and major groups and announced at the Summit,

*Recalling* the commitment made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development to launch programmes of action, with financial and technical assistance, to achieve the Millennium development goal on safe drinking water, namely, to halve by 2015 the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water, as outlined in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[5] and the goal of the Summit to halve the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation,[6]

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[3] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 9* (E/1998/29).

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[5] See resolution 55/2, para. 19.

[6] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex, para. 25.

*Recalling also* its resolution 53/199 of 15 December 1998 on the proclamation of international years,

*Noting* the efforts made in preparation for the Third World Water Forum and International Ministerial Conference, to be held in Japan in March 2003, and for the elaboration of the "World Water Development Report",

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[7]

1. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken by States, the Secretariat, and the organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system that are engaged in inter-agency work related to freshwater and by major groups in preparation for the observance of the International Year of Freshwater, and encourages them to continue their efforts;

2. *Encourages* all Member States, relevant international organizations and major groups to support activities related to the Year, inter alia, through voluntary contributions, and to link their relevant activities to the Year;

3. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and major groups to take advantage of the Year to raise awareness of the essential importance of freshwater resources for satisfying basic human needs and for health and food production and the preservation of ecosystems, as well as for economic and social development in general, and to promote action at the local, national, regional and international levels, and calls for high priority to be given to the serious freshwater problems facing many regions, especially in the developing countries;

4. *Encourages* voluntary partnerships among Member States, international organizations and major groups to promote activities related to the Year;

5. *Calls upon* Member States that have not already done so to create national committees or designate focal points in their respective countries to facilitate and promote activities related to the Year at the local and national levels;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote closer coordination to elaborate and support proposals and undertake activities related to the Year;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

*78th plenary meeting*
*20 December 2002*

[7] A/57/132.